



# The Burden of Tobacco in Polk County

Population 43,886

The Burden of Tobacco is a collaborative report of the University of Wisconsin Tobacco Surveillance and Evaluation Program, the American Cancer Society, and the Wisconsin Division of Public Health's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program.

## Smokers in Wisconsin and Polk County

	Wisconsin		Polk County	
	# of Smokers	Percent Smokers	# of Smokers	Percent Smokers
Total Number of Smokers	1,005,000		9,490	
Adult (18+) <sup>1,2</sup>	920,000	22%	8,770	26% <sup>‡</sup>
High School Youth <sup>3,4</sup>	66,000	21%	560	21%
Middle School Youth <sup>3,4</sup>	19,000	8%	160	8%
Smoking During Pregnancy <sup>5</sup>	10,000	14%	95	19%

## Deaths Directly Related to Smoking

Cause of Death <sup>6,7</sup>	Wisconsin		Polk County		
	Average Annual Deaths	Due to Smoking	Average Annual Deaths	Due to Smoking	% Due to Smoking <sup>†</sup>
Lung Cancer	2,760	2,208	23	18	79%
Other Smoking-Related Cancers	2,066	719	18	5	28%
Cardiovascular Disease	16,412	2,342	142	20	14%
Respiratory Disease	3,416	1,946	28	15	55%
Other Causes (not associated with smoking)	21,619	0	211	0	0%
<b>All Causes</b>	<b>46,273*</b>	<b>7,215*</b>	<b>401*</b>	<b>59*</b>	<b>15%</b>

## Years of Potential Life Lost

Cause of death <sup>6</sup>	Wisconsin	Polk County
Smoking-Related Cancers	43,000 years	350 years
Cardiovascular Disease	32,000 years	270 years
Respiratory Disease	21,000 years	150 years
<b>All Causes</b>	<b>96,000 years</b>	<b>770 years*</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Due to small sample sizes the following counties were grouped to establish prevalence estimates: Barron, Dunn, and Polk.

<sup>†</sup> May not appear to be exact due to using decimals in the calculations.

\* Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Note: Adult prevalence estimates from BRFSS, 2000-04; Youth estimates based on state level YTS, 2004; Maternal smoking estimates from WISH, 2004.

Note: Wisconsin and County Deaths Directly Related to Smoking and Years of Potential Life Lost are based on 2000-2004 mortality data.

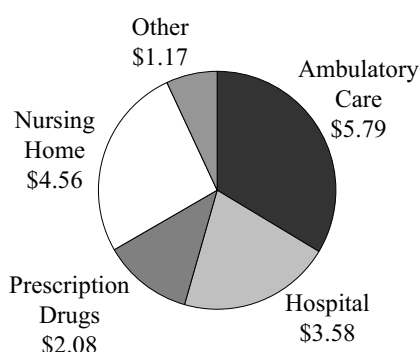
Note: See technical notes for a detailed description of the data sources and methodologies used to construct this report.

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### Economic Impact of Cigarette Smoking in Wisconsin and Polk County

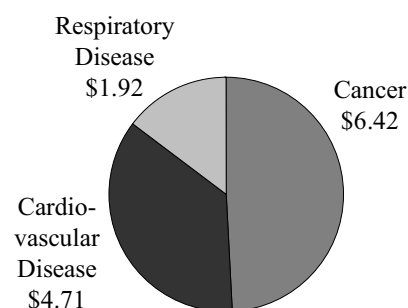
	Wisconsin	Polk County
Health Care Costs <sup>6,11</sup>	\$2,160,000,000	\$17,180,000
Lost Productivity <sup>6</sup>	\$1,640,000,000	\$13,050,000
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$3,800,000,000</b>	<b>\$30,230,000</b>

**Smoking Attributable Health Care Costs in Polk County, 2003<sup>6,11</sup>**  
(In millions of dollars)



**Total: \$17.2 Million \***

**Cost of Productivity Lost Due to Smoking in Polk County, 2001<sup>6</sup>**  
(In millions of dollars)



**Total: \$13.1 Million \***

- In Wisconsin, an estimated 7,215 people die annually from illnesses directly related to smoking and approximately 853 die from illnesses and fires indirectly related to smoking, for a total of 8,068 annual deaths.<sup>6-10</sup>
- Secondhand smoke is estimated to cause about 61 lung cancer deaths, 771 deaths from ischemic heart disease, and 9 infant deaths from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome in Wisconsin annually. Household fires in Wisconsin caused by cigarettes kill an estimated 12 people annually.<sup>8-10</sup>
- In Polk County, approximately 59 die annually of illnesses directly related to smoking.<sup>6,7</sup>
- Each year, approximately 15% of all deaths in Polk County are directly attributable to smoking. Cigarette smoking causes 79% of all lung cancer deaths and 14% of all deaths from cardiovascular disease in Polk County.<sup>6,7</sup>
- In Wisconsin, approximately 96,000 years were lost from the potential lifespan of those who died of smoking-related illnesses in 2004. In Polk County, about 770 years are lost annually from the effects of smoking.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2003, an estimated \$2.2 billion in health care costs were paid in Wisconsin as a result of diseases caused by smoking, with \$17.2 million paid in Polk County.<sup>6,11</sup>
- Wisconsin lost \$1.6 billion, including \$13.1 million in Polk County, in productivity costs because of illness and premature death directly associated with smoking in 2001.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2003, estimated health care costs of cigarette smoking were approximately \$390 for every man, woman and child in Polk County.<sup>6,11</sup>
- In 2004, there were over 384 million packs of cigarettes sold in Wisconsin. Residents of Polk County spent approximately \$13.3 million on 3,480,000 packs of cigarettes in 2004.<sup>12</sup>